NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

COMMERCE WITH ASIA.

The general interest which has been attracted toward the Asiatic coasts and islands by our projected expedition to Japan, has directed our attention to a document which has been lying on our forms a part of this document, and we

President TAYLOR and his Secretary of State. Mr. CLAYTON, being sensible of the importance of giving all the extension possible to our commerce. wherever ships could penetrate, sought to facilitate its development in the further East, among the Cochin Chinese, the Siamese, and the Malays, by remodelling old treaties of commerce, or making new ones with them. And for this purpose Mr. BALESTIER was chosen as being peculiarly well qualified by his long residence as our Consul at Singa-

Mr. BALESTIER was directed, after his arrival in China, or Anam, to offer reparation to the Government for an act of hostility alleged to have been committed by the commander of one of our public ships in 1845 on the subjects of the King of that him to enter into bonds of friendship and commerce with the United States. This duty performed, he was next to proceed to Siam to deliver in like manner a letter from of the treaty concluded with him on a former occasion, as

"On his passage through Egypt he was

commence a new cruise, as he was daily expecting to be meeting and returned to Hué. relieved in his command by the arrival of his successor, to East India station did not reach Macao until the 19th of ginally intended by the Secretary of State, instead of but February, 1850, Mr. Balestier lost three months of favor- one, the result of the mission would have been otherwise; able wind for his voyage. He, however, was enabled to set sail from Macao on the 22d of February, in the United States ship Plymouth, Captain Gedney, to the port of and childish conceit. Abject slaves themselves, and sub-Turong, in Cochin China. Mr. Balestier appears to have been fortunate in obtaining the valuable assistance of the Rev. Mr. Dean, an American Missionary, well

The Plymouth anchored in the spacious harbor of Turong on the 25th of the same month, and she was soon after visited by some inferior officers, who came to inquire about the business she was upon. Having foreseen this, Mr. Balestier had had prepared a paper in the Chinese language, (which is used in common by the Cochin Chinese,) explanatory of his mission, which having carefully read, they departed, and declined to carry the paper with them, giving assurance, however, that they would make known its contents to their superiors on shore. On the day following, Mr. Balestier was again visited by other officers of higher rank, on the same mission, to whom the paper shown on the day previous was presented, which, on being urged to carry on shore, they refused, saying that " what the eye hath seen the mouth will faithfully report," and they left the ship. No further communica tion was held-and indeed not a market boat came near the ship until the 1st of March, when an officer of a higher rank, accompanied by the subordinates who had come before, came for the like purpose of inquiry. Explanaenclosed in a sandal wood box, in accordance with the etiquette of the Court of Pekin, was exhibited, after which they took leave, with a promise that in a few days a great man from Hué, the capital, would attend upon the Envoy Their demeanor was courteous, but cautious, for they said they had been deceived by foreigners in ships of war, who came and were received as friends, but destroyed their ships and people.

In an excursion which Mr. Balestier made on she the principal town, near the anchorage, he was surprised to see the stillness and desolation, where, but a few years efore, the bustle of commerce prevailed in an eminent degree. And to his inquiries of the authorities who accompanied him, it was replied that the Government had ceased to encourage the industry of the country, by withholding advances of money to the cultivators of the soil and others: neither would the King allow of foreign trade, having ordered the shipping which escaped destruction

taken into the river on which Hué is built. The Envoy was visited again on the 6th by the sam fficers for the purpose of knowing the contents of the President's letter. At first the request was declined; but on reflection that these officers were mere passive intruments in the hands of their superiors, and debarred from the privilege of presenting their own views on any serious matter, and considering further the time already lost in unproductive intercourse, and, above all, the advanced state of the northeast monsoon, and the intimation given by the commodore that the Plymouth would have to return home before the mission could be completedhe went on shore, and in the town hall he met the princiofficers and informed them that he had consen cate to them the translation of the letter. They istened to the reading with great attention, objecting, in the first place, to the name by which their country was but the commodore considered that prudence and his incalled, and in the second place to the closing remarks of

WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER. the President, which they construed into a threat to their regular diplomatic intercourse with the western nations, and gave them no notice of the accession of their princes dinary if Europeans fell into errors about such matters which were known to themselves only; that, in the second place, what they considered as a threat was not so in repersist in harboring enmity and execute his ewn threats of avenging himself upon Americans who chanced to fall obliged to send war ships to Anam to demand satisfaction

took with him a map of the United States, which, with our treaty with China, was explained to the officers.

Turong sixteen days.

On landing the American Envoy and suite were con ducted to the great hall of audience, as on the former occasion, and not long after their arrival the entrance of a

about the object of the mission. The paper in the Chinese language, already alluded to, was presented to him, to him. He inquired what the Envoy had further to communicate. He was informed that he was the bearer of a letter from the chief of his nation, a copy of which had been sicated to him, and which, as directed, he was anxious to deliver. In reply, the Governor said that as the letter contained what was not correct, it could not be delivered to the King; that no letters could be laid before the King until his officers had examined and approved them. The the China seas, to proceed in the first place to Cochin | Envoy objected to this course, inasmuch as the letter was from the Chief of the United States to the Chief of Anam, both placed in the same elevated station, and that no sub ject or person of inferior rank had a right to interfere in its course. The Governor having said again that he could not deviate from accustomed usage, the secretary of country. And he was moreover directed to carry and the commission asked him in Chinese characters "if such deliver a letter from the President to the King, inviting is the custom observed towards China?" He wrote, in reply, "China needs not the same as other countries."

After a long discussion the Envoy stated his impression and firm belief that the objection made to receiving the the President to the King, inviting him to a remodelling President's letter was only a convenient pretext not to the altered policy of that country required, in order to when about to execute vengeance upon defenceless and make it available. Mr. B. was directed then to proceed innocent Americans for supposed wrongs; that, from his to Borneo to seek the establishment of friendly relations personal knowledge of the cruel practices of the Cochinand trade with the Rajah of Sarawak and Bruni, or Borneo; Chinese towards their enemies, he fully believed they were after which he was to make friendly visits to the Islands unwilling to enter into relations of friendship with the of Lombok and Bali, and finally visit the Pepper Ports on Americans, but preferred leaving themselves at liberty, as as open as ever, and again charging on Mr. Balestier the abide his own time to wreak his vengeance on those Ameat Boston in August, 1849, for England, and thence by ricans who should unfortunately fall into his hands: that struck with the singular fact, after due inquiry, that there him of the hostile and wicked intention of the Governwas no direct trade to that country from the United ment. Against such a diabolical course the Envoy warn-States, and that amidst a population of nearly three mil- ed them, telling the Governor that the United States was On Mr. Balestier's arrival in China, November 24, he A splendid repast, after the fashion of the country, was was disappointed in obtaining a conveyance to take him then served; and, after a new effort to bring about on his mission, the commodore on the station declining to more favorable negotiations, the Governor broke up the

Mr. Balestier inclines to the belief that had he appearwhom he referred him. As the new commander of the ed at Turong with a squadron of three ships, as was ori-"for," says he, "the Cochin-Chinese are like all other isolated and uninformed people, full of vain pretension servient to their sovereigns and superiors, they have a total disregard to the feelings of others; and in their unbound- picul. ed notion of their own greatness they are pleased to con versed in the Chinese and Siamese languages, as his sider as a homage due to them every attempt on the parof Europeans to enter into friendly relations with them. And Mr. Balestier suggested the necessity of demanding security of them for the lives and property of Americans. which are exposed along an extensive line of coast in the China Sea, "by an armed force able to enforce the demand;" which he, however, believes could be obtained without bloodshed by a squadron of three ships of war.

In the hope of receiving intimation of a more favorable disposition to treat, Mr. Balestier remained at the anchorage until the 16th March, when, hearing nothing from the shore, he informed the commodore that he was ready to proceed further on his mission, viz. to Bangkok, ir Siam. The anchors were weighed and the Plymouth glided out of the celebrated harbor of Turong, now entirely deserted by the shipping which of old crowded it.

The wind and current proving favorable, the ship anhored off the bar of the river Ma-nam, upon which the city of Bangkok is built, on the 24th of March. On the day following an inferior officer came on board to make inquiries as to the object of the visit of the ship, when paper in the Siamese language, prepared beforehand, as had been done at Turong, explanatory of the object of the mission, was delivered to him, with which he returned to the shore, taking with him likewise a letter from the Envoy to the American missionaries stationed at Bangkok requesting them to aid in pressing the arrangements for landing, and precise information as to the existence of the cholera, which was reported to be ravaging the city.

A few days after information was received from the

Siamese authorities and by a missionary who came or

board that the usual preparations to receive the Envoy had been ordered, and that the cholera had so far abated in the city as to cause no apprehension with common care A day or two previous to the arrival of the Plymouth, a British war steamer had arrived in the river Ma-nam bringing the announcement of the early coming of a Briommissioner to the King on a similar mission. The Court of Siam, dreading any approach of the English, manifested great joy when news of the arrival of our mission reached it; for the King was reported to have expressed his pleasure by saying that the Americans were his friends, and the preparations which were made to receive them were in accordance with these feelings. But this friendly disposition seems to have been changed to disappointment when, on the morning of the 3d of April, the Envoy was seen to occupy himself, the secretary of the embassy, and a missionary only, one of the State former ones, the Envoy was not accompanied by a retinue of officers and a guard of marines. And this they consito return home before the mission could be completed— dered as disrespectful to the King and country; and hence all these considerations determined Mr. Balestier to waive the origin of the inattention shown to him. The prevamitting any communication by himself or his officers or marines with the shore—a very unfortunate circumstance

was forced to leave without being able to effect any part ed to invite him to enter into negotiations, which I hoped for the purpose of trade of his mission. Along his progress up to the capital he would terr mate in a convention of friendship and c was left to be attended by inferior officers; and when he reached the residence which had been prepared for him he remained in the hands of persons of inferior station of friendship and trade with the United Stat from the President, and to propose a revision of the trea-

nust rest all the evil that might grow out of such an in-

those charged with the administration of its affairs, are not only the owners of the whole native shipping, but they have a monopoly of the productions of the country, which they hold under a farm-system from the Crown. These nany articles of import are farmed out. These functionstored to its former state of freedom, they would lose the shrewdly set to work to make it appear to the King and to the people that the embassy was not what it pretended they trumped up a story that at the conference he rose up, behaved unbecomingly and dictatorially, no indications of which appear to have been observed, and are contradicted by the four American missionaries who acompanied Mr. Balestier, as fully appears by their written interview, all of which Mr. Balestier inserts in his offi-

On the day following that of the meeting the Siame letter on the object of his mission, and expressive of his ing to be furnished with a conveyance to the Plymouth on ndirectly denying that we had cause to complain of any infringement of the treaty, asserting that the trade was indicative of anger and disrespect was nothing more than the usage of his country, which requires that a person addressing an assembly should do so standing, and in a tone of voice audible to the whole assembly." He then adduces the proofs of the violation of our treaty stipulations for an open and free market, by placing the sale of the products of the country exclusively in the hands and under the control of Chinamen, and likewise giving the monopoly of purchasing metals imported in American ships, upon which the regular custom dues have already been paid by the importing vessel to certain farmers, who resell it to others, charging a duty of one ticala, or sixty cents, per

Mr. Balestier embarked on the river on the morning following, in expectation of meeting the Plymouth at her the gulf, where he found her and went on board.

With regard to the trade of Siam at the time of his in consequence of the farming monopoly system; for the the settlement of crimes or disputes by an American coning below the cost of production, these industrious peo- the same without interference, molestation, or hindrane ple, the principal cultivators in Siam, had for the greater on the part of any authority of the country, placing us part abandoned their fields; and instead of crops of about on the most favorable footing for the extensive trade, 32,000,000 of pounds, as before 1840, when the farm sys- which, before many years, that fruitful and teeming coun The arrival of foreign ships had ceased altogether during india rubber in inexhaustible quantity, and, among other the five previous years, whilst their own shipping, trading mineral products, antimony ore and bituminous coal are exclusively to the Straits of Malacca and the Island of said to be every where found. Java, had increased to five thousand tons; and this was nore than could be employed, as the exportation of rice, expectation of resuming and ending his mission to the which might be grown to any extent, is wholly pro- Island of Lambok and Ball, and finally to the pepper

course towards "Subi," a small island upon which some to return home. He remained in China until the month of years before an American ship was stranded and lost and to the chief of which Mr. Balestier was instructed to ships of war, which he was informed would furnish him a deliver a gold medal and other presents from the President, as acknowledgment of the hospitable reception given having reached China previous to the setting in of the by the chief to her crew.

was next visited, to deliver a letter of friendship to Sir repaired to Batavia, in the island of Java, to await there James Brooke, the Rajah, who was absent, but his repre- passage through the Staits of Sunda. sentatives in the Government expressed their gratification at receiving so flattering a mark of attention from the the ships, Mr. Balestier availed himself of the opportu-President of the United States, and their belief that the nity to acquaint himself with the condition of our trade Rajah would very readily enter into a convention of friend- with the Netherland India, on which he addressed a full

the great Island of Borneo to the newly-established Bri- the island of Java, their principal possession, and called tish settlement of Labuan, before which the Plymouth attention to the grievances under which American com anchored on the 7th of May. The Governor was absent, merce labors in those possessions, all of which is given in but he had directed those in charge of the government to detail in his voluminous report. give the Envoy every aid and assistance in his negotiations with the Sultan of Bruni, or Borneo proper, whose himself whilst in the East to obtain the most reliable indominions extend over a very considerable part of that formation from persons having recently occupied official vast island, the capital of which (Bruni) lies about thirty situations in that country, the result of which was to immiles up a broad and deep river. Thither Mr. Balestier press him with the belief that any attempt at negotiation went in one of the ship's boats, and on his arrival he was with the jealous and isolated people, for a friendly interreceived with great demonstrations of joy by the Malay course, by any one of the nations of Europe alone, would authorities. Arrangements were made for a royal reception on the following day, and a salute was fired on his entering the great hall of reception with his suite. Mr. Balestier found the Sultan and his principal officers of State assembled. On presenting to the Sultan the President's letter, and on his breaking the seal, another salute was fired as a mark of respect for it. "I then (says Mr. B.) explained to his Highness that the object of my mission was one of friendship and peace, and an endeaver on the part of my Government to enter into friendly and then part of my Government to enter into friendly and the part of my Government to enter into friendly and the part of my Government to enter into friendly and the part of my Government to enter into friendly and hospitable manner, so long as they demean.

putes and differences arise between American citizens and the subjects of his Highness the Sultan of Borneo, or between American citizens and the citizens and subjects of any other foreign Power, in the dominions of his Highness the Sultan of Borneo, the American consul, or other duly appointed officers, shall have the power to hear and decide the same without any interference, molestation, or hindrance on the part of any au-thority of Borneo, either before, during, or after the litigation. This treaty shall be ratified, and the ratification thereof shall

therity of Borneo, either before, during, or after the litigation
This treaty shall be ratified, and the ratification thereof shal
be exchanged at Bruni within two years after this date.

Done at the city of Bruni, on this twenty-third day of June,
Anno Demini one thousand eight hundred and fifty, and on
the thirteenth day of the month Saabon, of the year of the
Hegira one thousand two hundred and sixty-six.

JOSEPH BALESTIER,
SULTAN OMAR, Ali, &c., &c.

By the terms of this Convention free entrance to ou citizens with their goods and protection to persons and property are guarantied whilst in the country, with privilege to acquire and to hold all kinds of property, and former anchorage. But in this expectation he was disap- to be free to import every article of commerce on which, pinted, as the ship was not at the bar, and he embarked in lieu of other duty or charge whatever, one dol n a small schooner in search of her some forty miles down lar per ton of the registered tonnage of the vessel is exacted, and nothing on exportations; and further, free ingress into the ports and rivers to obtain supplies at visit, he says that it was reduced to a very low condition, moderate prices is stipulated, as well as protection, and very low price given to the Chinese sugar cultivators be- sul, or other persons duly appointed to hear and decide tem commenced, that of 1850 was supposed by competent try might develop. Besides the usual products of the residents not to exceed ten and a half millions of pounds. tropics, that favored land abounds in gutta percha and

> From Borneo Mr. Balestier returned to Macao, with an ports, on the west coast of Sumatra. But in this he was disappointed, as the Plymouth was obliged by her orders conveyance to complete his duties. But neither of them ortheast monsoon, in order to save them the usually rough passage up the China sea during that period, he

Whilst at Batavia waiting for the expected ship and trade with the Americans on a liberal footing. report to the Government, with an account of the govern-From Sarawak the ship proceeded along the coast of ment, culture, and cost of production of the products in

Respecting Japan, Mr. Balestier says that he applied

the President, which they construed into a threat to their
King. It was said to them, in reply, that as they held no pursued towards Mr. Balestier, which continued until he put down. And with this friendly object I was instruct—the country; and also to invite them to open their ports

great present and future trade with China and India, in following which the islands of Japan lie in the direct fail in bringing them to fair terms, and a proper recognition of international relations and obligations

eded by his two brothers, who, having had formerly with Americans, whose language they speak, Mr. Bales tier suggests the sending of a new mission to place o trade there on its former footing.

POSITION OF AMERICAN CLERGY.

FROM THE HOME JOURNAL, (NEW YORK.) The Christian Inquirer of this city, a paper conducted with ability, and pervaded always by a libe ral and humane spirit, concludes an article upon "the American Clergy" with the following words:

"We believe that the voluntary system in this country is as yet in a very crude and undeveloped state, and that far more decided measures than is generally thought are necessary to guard against imminent dangers, especially to resist the intrigues of a foreign priesthood, who know too well the weak points of our system, and who, how-ever much under authority, are in some respects free from our dependence upon the congregations. We intended to pur-sue the subject, but our columns are so crowded as to for-

ter had his finger upon the sore place. That is the very tions." We regret that the Inquirer did not "pursue the subject;" and we yet hope to see in its columns the frankest and fullest expesition of its opinions upon this most important subject.

We have another paragraph lying before us, clipped some time ago from the Olive Branch, which states the case in eloquent burlesque. It is signed "Fanny Fern," who must be a clergyman's wife or daughter, so thorough an understanding has she of the complicated difficulties of a clergyman's position:

He never exchanges; is not particular whether he occu-

We were wrong in calling the above burlesque. We know, and a large number of our readers know, that it is an almost literal statement of facts. There are certain subjects upon which it is dangerous

in this nation, to speak; because it is universally supposed that we are so absolutely and finally RIGHT in our view of them, that to express even a timid and modest doubt respecting the correctness of the popular opinion is regarded as a species of impiety, if it is a religious matter-or treason, if the subject is political. The subject named at the head of this article is one of these. Sanctioned, however, by such high religious authorities as those just quoted, we may perhaps be pardoned for offering a few observations on a matter most intimately connected with the preservation, not to say the progress, of civilization in this Western world. So far in our history the preservation of civilization, amid the manifold tendencies to barbarism incident to the settlement of a new country, is due mainly to the labors of the clergy. At this moment there are vast regions in the Western country where the sole hope and stay of civilization is the Methowhere the sole hope and stay of civilization is the Metho-dist pioneer preacher; where the tidings that there is a better life than that of earth, noblef pleasures than those of sense, worthier aims than worldly fortune, reach the ears of the people through him alone. But whether the clergy are destined to carry on to completion what they have begun, or whether the clerical profession is to be-come extinct, and a wholly different religious organiza-tion is to take its place, depends simply upon this—whe-ther the pecuniary support of the American clergy shall or shall not be placed on a better, juster, and more inde-pendent footing than it now is. At present, as is well known, the tendencies all are to the extinction of the pro-fession.

world of supporting the clergy. One is for the Government, as in France, to pay the salaries out of the ordinary revenues, just as the civil officials are paid. Another is the English method of tithes and livings, the right of the clergyman to the tithe, or its commuted equivalent, being recognised and protected by the law, and the cler-gyman holding his living for life, or "good behavior."
The third is the voluntary system, in which the pastor is the hireling of his flock, is appointed by his flock, holds his place at the pleasure of his flock, and is subject to all the whims and caprices of his flock, whom he must please or leave. Under all of these different systems, the clergy, as a class, have always been poor; and, to their honor be it a class, have always been poor; and, to their honor be it said, have never, as a class, complained of their poverty. It is wages enough, they have always felt, to be occupied immediately in the affairs of the soul, and be exempt from worldly distractions. Nor is it of their poverty that our clergymen are accustomed to complain; though they might well do so, Heaven knows! It is the insecurity of their position, their dependant, semi-pauperlike condition.

They are aware, of course, that a man with an income of four hundred dollars a year, upon which a family and their position of their position, their dependant, semi-pauperlike condition.

When the subject comes before the Senate, we hope that four hundred dollars a year, upon which a family, and perhaps an indispensable horse, are to be maintained, can preach with little effect to a man who exults in an can preach with future except to a man who exults in an income of ten thousand, particularly in these days when money is the only thing to which sincere homage is paid. But if that annual pittance of four hundred dollars were wholly, indisputably, and for life, HIS OWN, then the pastor, intrenching himself in the inherent dignity of his position, could safely defy his proud parishioner, and preach forth the words of truth and righteousness, without fear or favor. Can he do so now? Yes, if he is strong and unmarried. But who can help being a coward when his children's bread, perchance his aged mother's, hangs upon the will, the whim of a purse-proud "dun-derhead?" In such a case cowardice is virtue and mar-

ing paragraph in the Puritan Recorder:

The Aged Pastor's Dismission.—A few days since an Ecclesiastical Council convened at Sheffield, Massachusetts, for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relation between the Rev. James Bradford and the Congregational Church and Society of that place. Of this Council the Rev. Dr. Todd, of Pittsfield, was Moderator, and the Rev. Mr. Clark, of South Egremont, was Scribe. The grounds on which the expediency of this dissolution was placed were solely and entirely the age and infirmities of the pastor. The Council deeply regretted that it had not occurred to the people that it would have been more honorable and becoming had they retained the aged pastor and settled a colleague with him; a measure seemingly connected with good.

We very cheerfully give insertion (says the New York Commercial Advertiser) to the following extract from a letter written by an American resident at Rio de Janeiro, dated May 15, bearing honorable testimony to the efficiency and popularity of the Hon. R. C. Schenck, representing our Government at the Court of Brazil

"We Americans, resident in Brazil, are delighted with our new Minister, who has done more during the short time he has been in this country to protect and secure our rights and interests than any other American Minister near this Gourt.

"He has obtained redress for many grievances to which

have received great benefit from his protection, and are very much indebted to him for his kindness and active in-fluence in their behalf. But while he is always ready to befriend his countrymen, he is very careful not to interfere when there are not good grounds for his interposi-tion. He is justly popular with the Brasilian Govern-ment, and is listened to on all occasions with the most profound respect. In fine, he reflects honor upon his country, and his countrymen here are proud of him, and, while so far removed from the land of their birth, are as-

MODERN AGRARIANISM

PROM THE WASHINGTON REPUBLIC. In the formal record of the proceedings of the 'Industrial Congress' that recently graced the city of Washington, we find the following declara-tory resolutions on the subject of "Land Reform:"

" Resolved, That by Land Freedom we understand the entire abolition and annulment of all property, value, or ownership in the soil; that the fact of improvement by ownership in the soil; that the fact of improvement by tillage or building is the only rightful title by which any individual can claim the possession of land, and that the cost of improvement is the only gauge to determine the

value. "Resolved, That while we declare the principle contained in the preceding resolution to be our starting point and cardinal proposition, we accept, as progressive means towards the realization of our great objects—

"1st. The freedom of all public lands now held in trust for the people by the Government of the United States and by State Governments, so that they be open for settlement and make the actual cultivators.

and use by actual cultivators.
_ "2d. The exemption of the homestead from alienatio

The ultimate object of this class of "Reformers" is, then, the adoption of agrarianism in its most radical shape; but seeing that society is, in the language of the dreamers, yet too corrupt to embrace the whole truth, they generously consent to accept certain measures in the character of instalments. If the proposition, that there can be no property in the soil, were confined to the debates of the Industrial Congress, there would be a show of reason for regarding it simply as the product of social idealists. But the debates in the House of Represents tives on the homestead bill preclude such a suppr call the name of a speaker in favor of the bill who took pains to repudiate the agrarianism that had been adduced in its support. We do not impute agrarianism, or any tendency to it, to all who advocated the measure ; but we think that a want of judgment was evinced when its provisions were not placed upon the basis of policy, as distinguished from pretensions to natural right. Un-

care will be taken to guard against the possibility of confounding approval of free grants of land with the agrarianism of the Industrial Congress, or the anarchical proposition of the more consistent Proudhon.

During the past week (says the Somerset (N. J.) Whig of June 16) we have had a very old Tortoise shown us. Its appearance was indicative of great age and pretty hard usage. It was found by I. C. Hatch, Esq. upon his farm near our village, under an old stump, probably his winter quarters. While sitting upon our table, he very leisurely opened his shell, thrust out his rusty looking head, coelly looked at us, gave a knowing wink, as if to say, "I shant tell all I've seen;" and then, doubtless satisfied that he had seen enough of us, soberly shut himself up again.